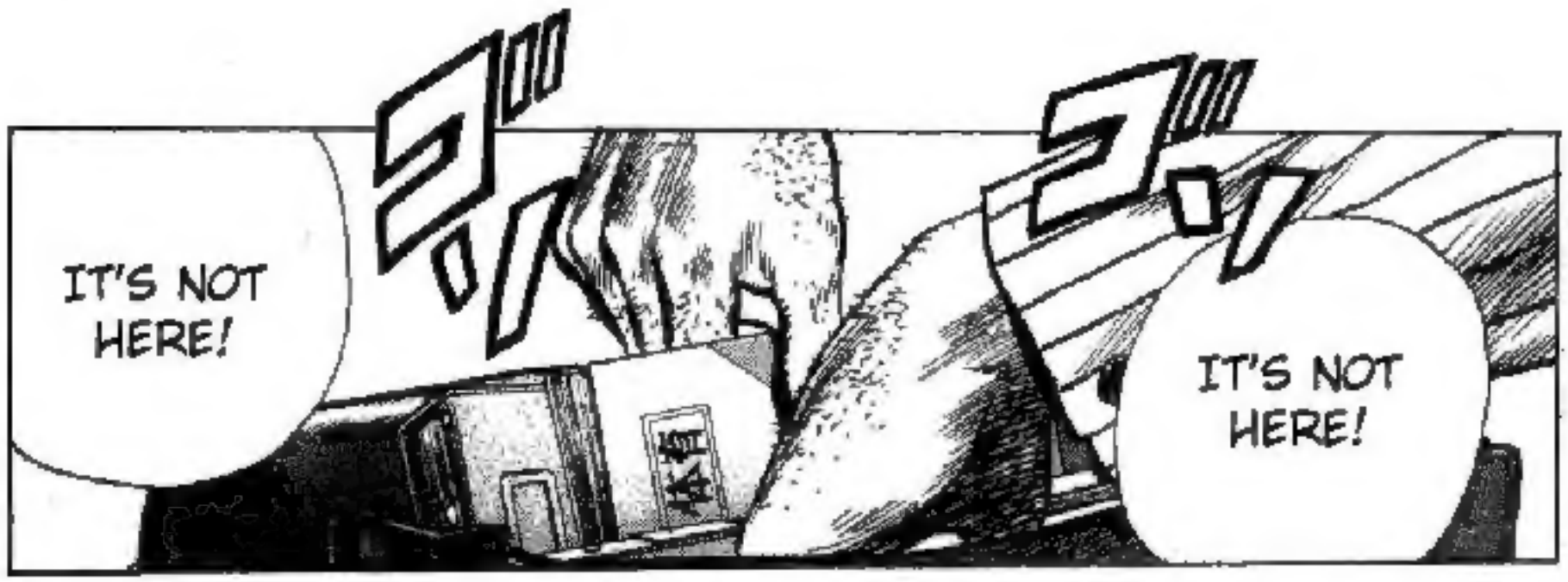
CHAPTER 115: THE GREAT APE OF THE NORTH AND THE PIG OF THE SOUTH


IT'S NOT HERE!
IT'S NOT HERE!

HUH?

OH... MAEDA.
WAIT, FUJITAKE-SAN? WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?

OH, GREAT, DID I LEAVE IT AT HOME?
I KNOW I BROUGHT IT WITH ME...
MAYBE IT'S IN THE DRAWER.

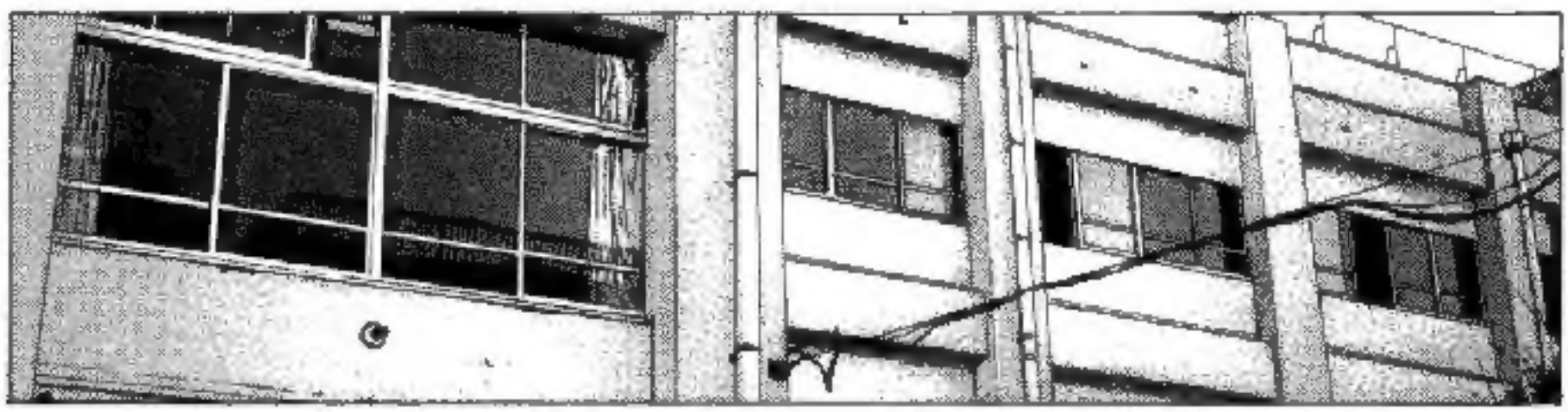
THIS IS MY DESK NOW.
SAY WHA-AAT!?

I'VE BEEN OFFICIALLY HIRED AS THE SCHOOL'S DOCTOR.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

IF YOU JUST START MESSING AROUND WITH THE GUY'S DESK, HE'S GONNA THROW YOU OUT.

I-I JUST HAVE ENGLISH NOW...

UH...
ACTUALLY, WHY ARE YOU HERE? NOT FEELING WELL?
UH... I...

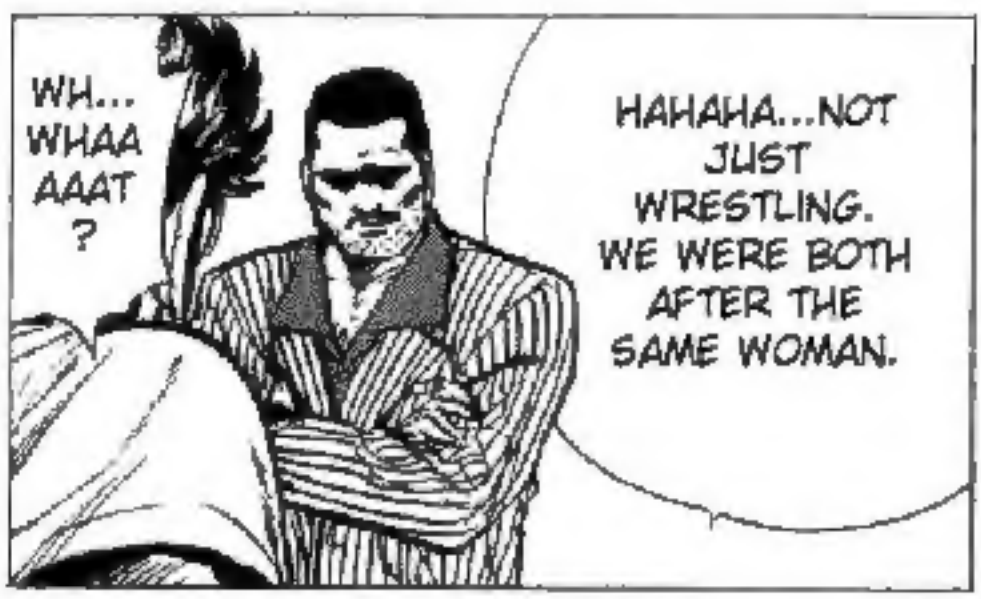


HEY, WEREN'T YOU AND MASA-SAN WRESTLING RIVALS IN COLLEGE?

KEH! I'VE GOT UNTIL HE GRADUATES TO KICK HIS ASS.
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S FINALLY FOUND HIMSELF A REAL RIVAL. I'M GLAD.

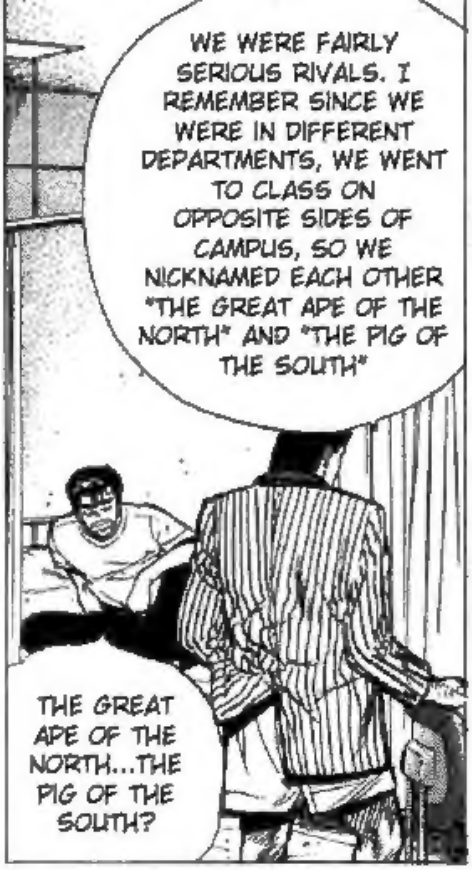
YOU MUST BE DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU DIDN'T GET TO FIGHT SEIKICHI PROPERLY.

BUT I STILL GOT THE GIRL, AS IT WERE.
I COULD NEVER BEAT HIM IN A WRESTLING MATCH.


WH... WHAA AAAT ?
HAHAHA...NOT JUST WRESTLING. WE WERE BOTH AFTER THE SAME WOMAN.

HAHAHA, I GUESS EVEN AN APE CAN BECOME A DOCTOR.
A WRESTLER CALLED THE GREAT APE OF THE NORTH IN MED SCHOOL? THAT'S ACTUALLY KINDA FUNNY...

I WASN'T IN MED SCHOOL THEN.
HUH?


WE WERE FAIRLY SERIOUS RIVALS. I REMEMBER SINCE WE WERE IN DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS, WE WENT TO CLASS ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF CAMPUS, SO WE NICKNAMED EACH OTHER "THE GREAT APE OF THE NORTH" AND "THE PIG OF THE SOUTH"
THE GREAT APE OF THE NORTH...THE PIG OF THE SOUTH?

UNTIL KONDOU ELIMINATED ME IN THE FINALS OF THE TRYOUTS FOR THE MONTREAL OLYMPICS.
I WASN'T PLANNING TO BECOME A DOCTOR...

IT SHOULD BE YOU GOING TO MONTREAL, FUJITAKE.
I LOST BY TWO POINTS! WERE THOSE JUDGES EVEN WATCHING THAT MATCH?

.....
THIS MAKES UP FOR WHEN YOU GOT THAT STOMACH ULCER AFTER TRYING OUT FOR MUNICH AND I HAD TO REPLACE YOU.
IT SHOULD BE YOU CARRYING JAPAN'S FLAG.

FUJITAKE ....

JUST MAKE SURE YOU FIGHT FOR ME TOO.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU'RE STILL THE ONE THAT WON.

YOU KNOW SHE LIKES ME BETTER.
HAHA, COME ON, MAN...
JUST DON'T TRY GETTING CLOSE TO AYA-CHAN WHILE I'M AWAY, GOT IT?

OH... AYA-CHAN.
JEEZ, ARE YOU TWO STILL FIGHTING IN THERE?
HE STARTED IT!

HUH? SHE MADE ME COOKIES!
YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT!
THOSE WERE JUST THE ONES I DIDN'T ALREADY EAT!

I CAME TO PICK YOU UP, FUJITAKE-KUN!
...ARE YOU KIDDING ME.

GROW UP A LITTLE, KONDOU-KUN! YOU'RE GOING TO BE FAMOUS!
YOU'RE LIKE LITTLE KIDS!

GYAHAHAHA-HAHA!

WE HAD A LOT OF GOOD TIMES TOGETHER, THE THREE OF US...
KONDOU WAS JUST BEING HIMSELF.

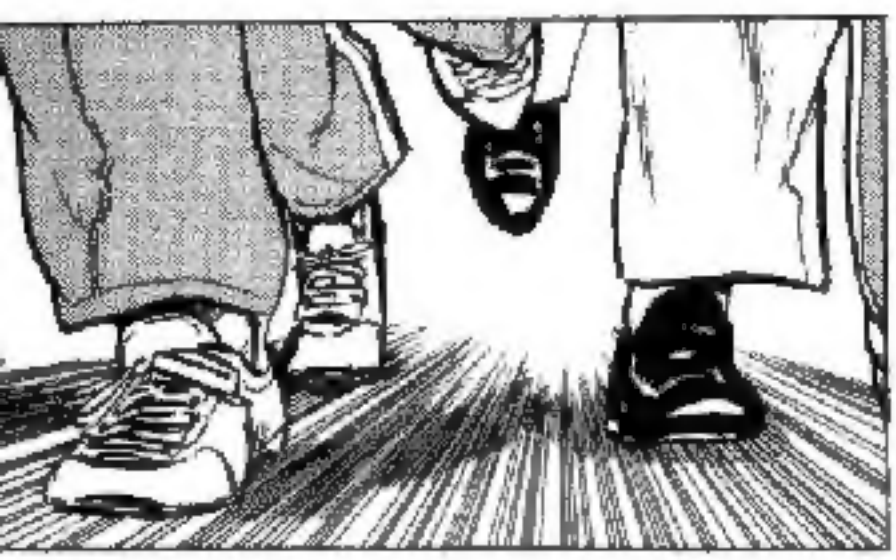
POOR MASA-SAN...
I TOLD HIM TOO. IT WAS FAIRLY OBVIOUS THAT SHE LIKED ME BETTER.

BUT ON THE DAY HE WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAVE FOR CANADA...

I TOLD YOU NOT TO SAY STUFF LIKE THAT!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY BOILS ON YOUR ASS OR ANYTHING, DO YOU?

YOUR PLANE LEAVES AT SIX, SO WE ALL CAME HERE TO SEE YOU OFF.
JUST DON'T TRY TO EMBARRASS ME.

I'VE GOT BAD NEWS!
WAIT... WHERE'S AYA...



AYA-SAN WAS HIT BY A CAR! SHE WAS JUST TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL!
H-HOLY...

AYA-SAN!

AYA!

AYA-CHAN!

MOVE! YOU'RE BLOCKING THE WAY!

AYA!

KONDOU-KUN...YOU BETTER COME BACK HOME WITH A MEDAL...

I-I'LL BE ALRIGHT ...DON'T WORRY...

YOU PROMISED.

AYA!

FUJITAKE-KUN

KONDOU-KUN...

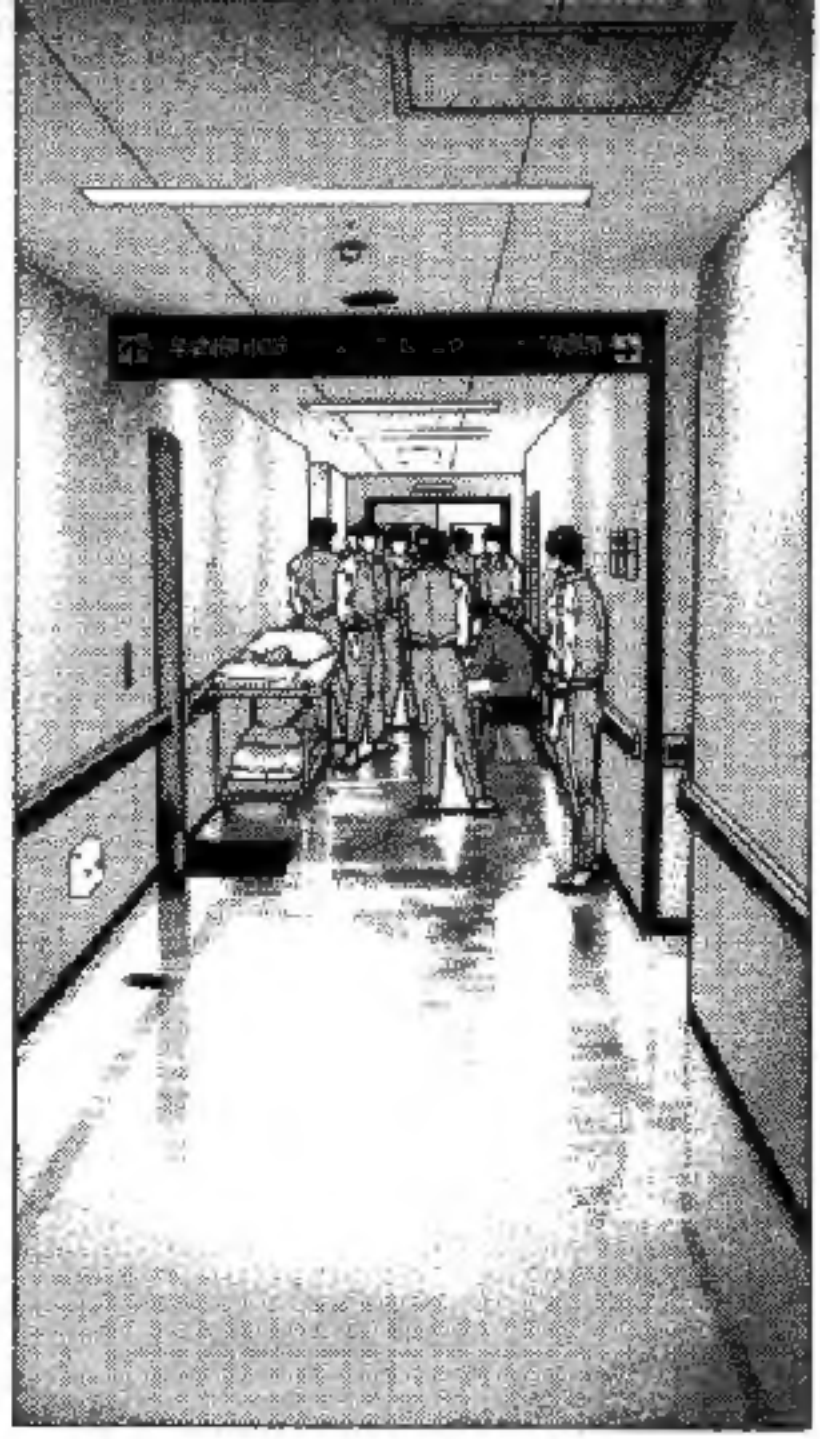
IT'S SUCH AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR YOU...

I'M SORRY ...

.....

.....

KONDOU, IT'S ALMOST 6 O'CLOCK. YOU SHOULD BE AT THE AIRPORT.
I CAN'T GO YET.



.....

!
FORGET ABOUT THE OLYMPICS...

KEEP TALKING BULLSHIT AND I'LL KILL YOU.
YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WE ALL WANT TO SEE YOU WIN.

.....

DON'T EVEN THINK THAT.

WE NEED SOMEONE WHO CAN DONATE A LOT OF BLOOD QUICKLY.

WE'RE IN A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION HERE. IT'S A RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK.

I'M AB NEGA-TIVE.

I...I CAN DO IT.

WH ...

KONDOU-SAN...

SHE NEEDS AB NEGATIVE.

I'M TYPE O, SO SHE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE IT!

I...I'LL DO IT!

.....

ONLY ONE IN 200 PEOPLE HAVE A NEGATIVE BLOOD TYPE! AND AB NEGATIVE...

BUT THAT'S ...

!

(T/N: IN JAPAN, 99% OF PEOPLE REALLY DO HAVE A POSITIVE BLOOD TYPE, EVEN THOUGH THIS ISN'T THE CASE ELSEWHERE.)

WH...
YOU'RE STILL HERE! I TOLD YOU TO GET TO THE AIRPORT! THE PLANE'S GONNA LEAVE WITHOUT YOU!

IF YOU HAVE IT, SHE'LL BE SAVED!
KOUDOU!

FUJITAKE-SAN!
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!
DON'T SAY THAT! WE NEED HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

UH...

YOU HAVE TO BE IN GOOD SHAPE!
YOU'RE GOING TO MONTREAL!

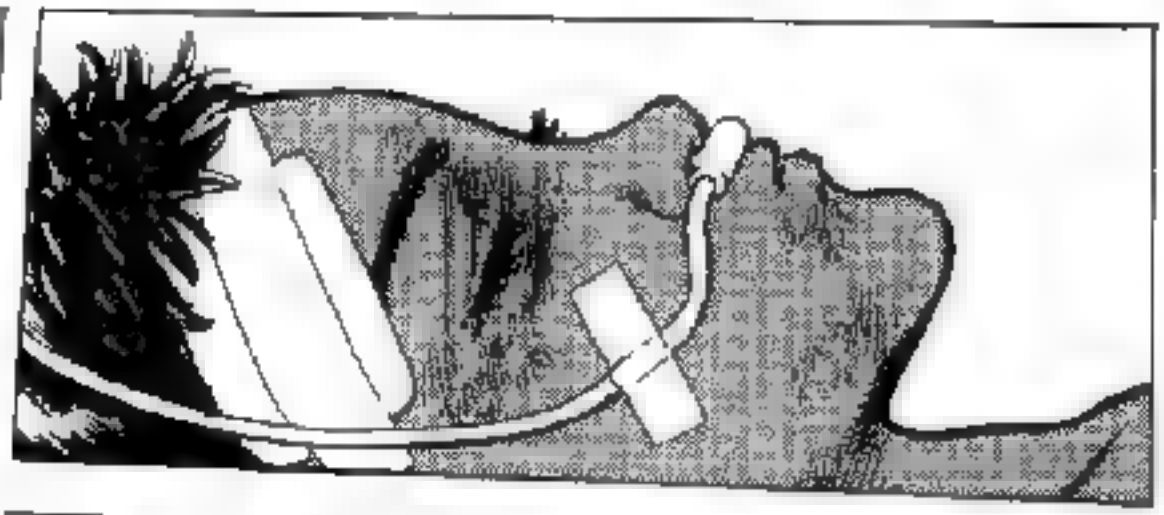
SHUT UP! HE CAN'T LOSE THAT MUCH BLOOD RIGHT NOW!

B-
BUT...

YOU KNOW WHAT AYA WANTS! YOU HAVE TO GO THERE AND GET A MEDAL!
IT'S WHAT WE ALL WANT!

F-
FUJITAKE
-SAN!
JUST SHUT UP AND GO, KONDOU!
TH-THIS IS A HOSPITAL!

KONDOU
-SAN!
MASA-
SAN!

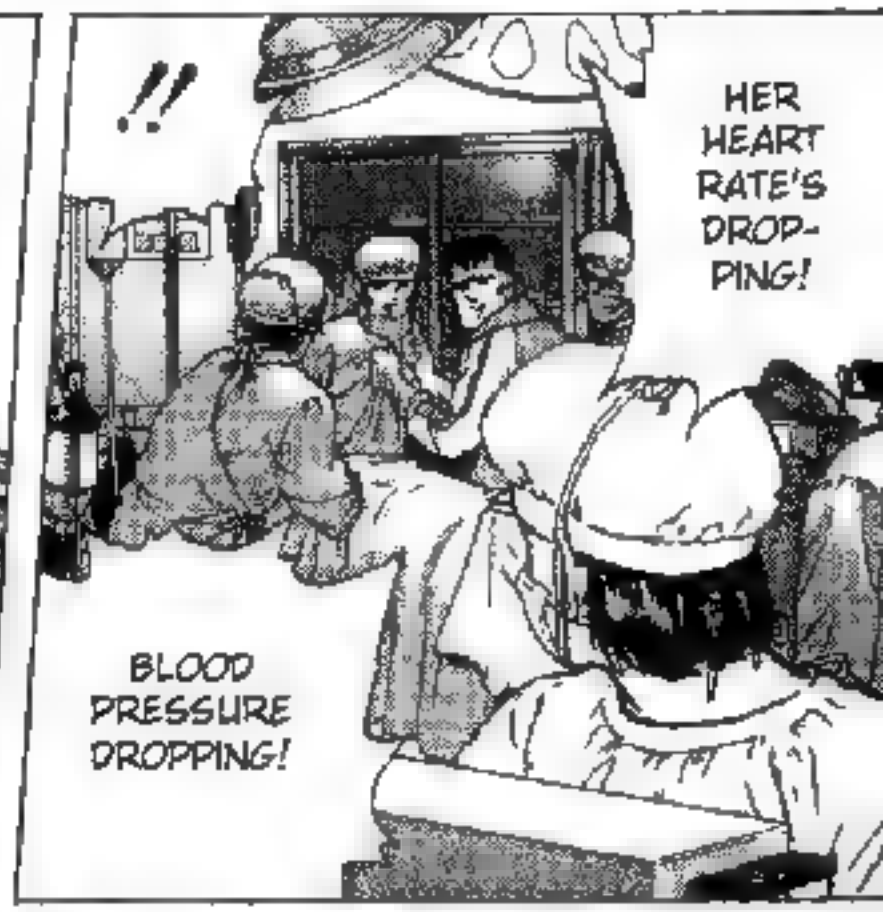


KONDOU'S GOING TO THE OLYMPICS FOR YOU! YOU HAVE TO LIVE TO SEE HIM!

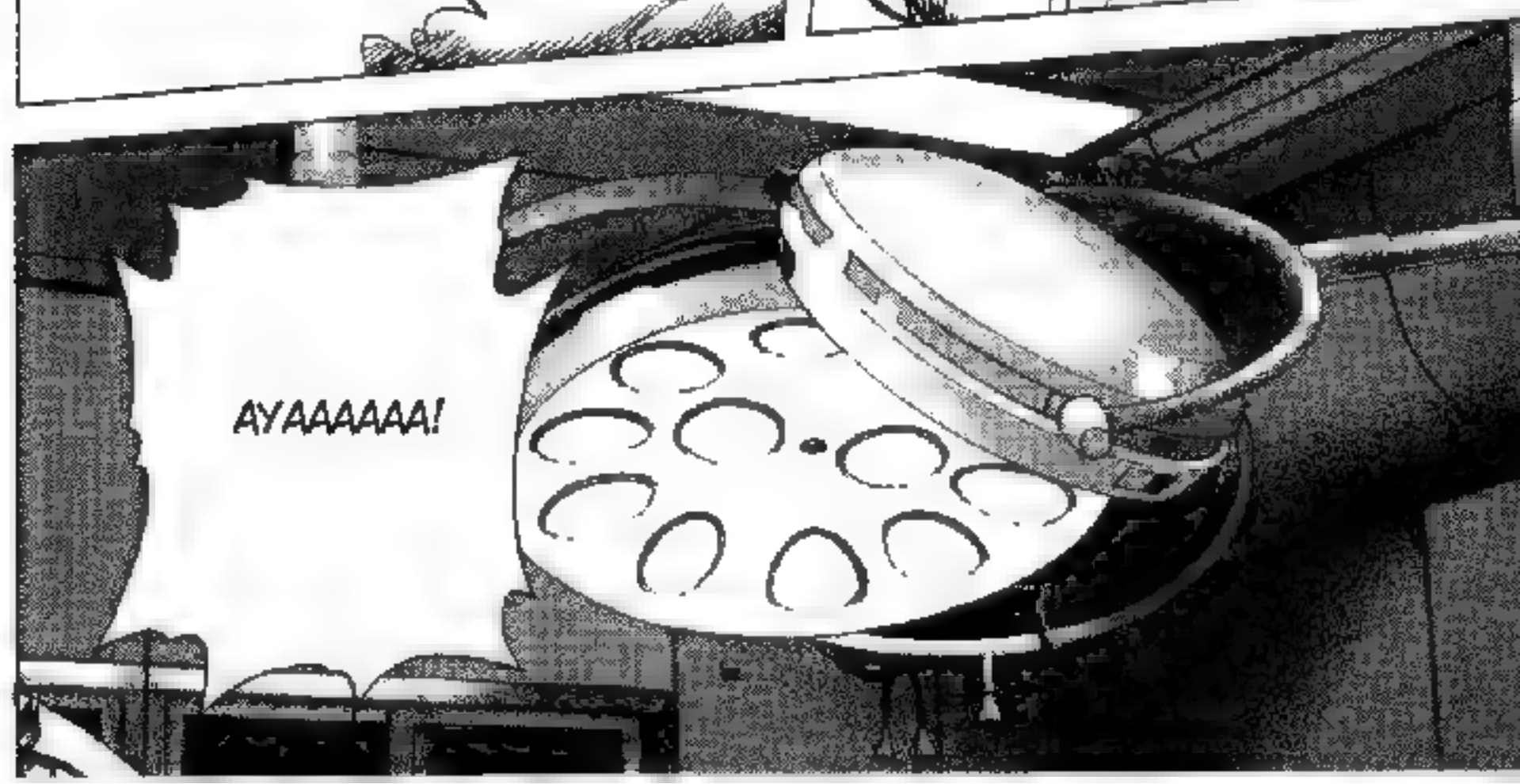
THAT'S ... IMPOS-SIBLE ...
YOU'RE A DOCTOR, AREN'T YOU? THINK OF ANOTHER WAY!
THERE'S GOTTA BE ANOTHER WAY!

WAIT!
GO GET THE OTHER MAN!

I'LL CURE YOU!
I'M GONNA BECOME A DOCTOR AND SAVE YOU! JUST HANG ON UNTIL I CAN, AYA!


!!
HER HEART RATE'S DROP-PING!
BLOOD PRESSURE DROPPING!

SHIT ...


AYAAAAAA!

THAT'S HOW I BECAME A DOCTOR.

THAT'S ALL I COULD THINK FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS...

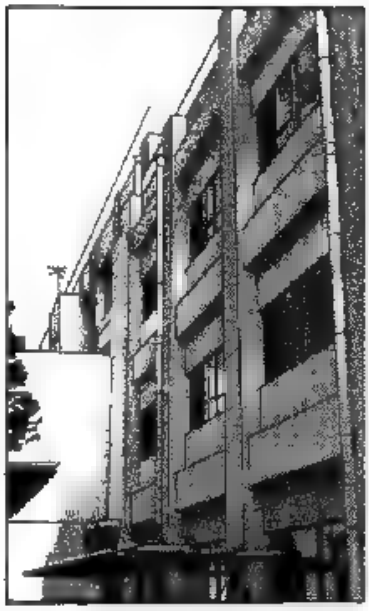
IF...IF I'D BEEN A DOCTOR THEN...

I WOULD HAVE FOUND ANOTHER WAY...

MAEDA ...

WELL, THAT'S THE STORY.

...

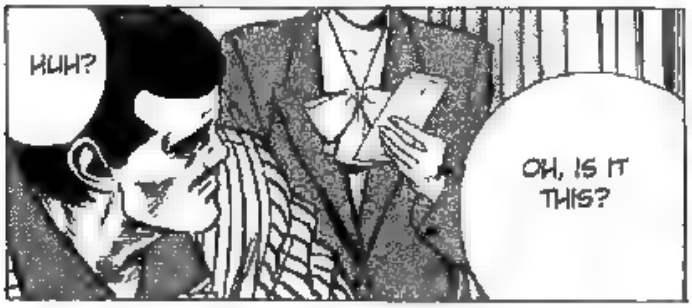


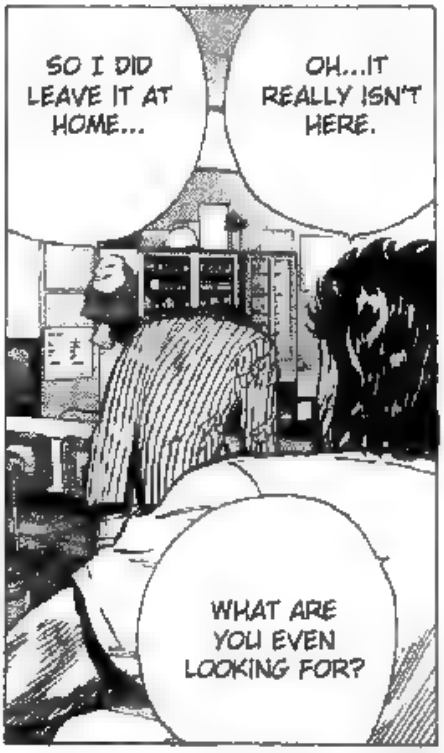
TELL HIM THERE'S A DOCTOR FROM THE HOSPITAL HERE TO SEE HIM.

EXCUSE ME...IS THERE A KONDOU MASAHIKO TEACHING HERE?
OH...YOU MEAN MASA-SAN?

ABOUT THAT...
HUH?
SO MASA-SAN'S ASS BOIL JUST KEPT GETTING WORSE AND THAT'S WHY HE COULDN'T GO, RIGHT?

I GOT A LETTER FROM A DOCTOR IN THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY.
I WANTED TO SHOW KONDOU QUICKLY.


HUH?
OH, IS IT THIS?


SO I DID LEAVE IT AT HOME...
OH...IT REALLY ISN'T HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN LOOKING FOR?

W...WAIT, YOU HAVE A WIFE!?
THIS IS SEIKICHI'S FRIEND MAEDA.
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU. THIS IS MY WIFE.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU. MY NAME IS FUJITAKE AYA.

YOU ALWAYS FORGET
YES, YES I DID. THANK YOU FOR BRINGING IT TO ME.

HE WAS JUST TALKING ABOUT...
AYA...YOU'RE NOT...

!!

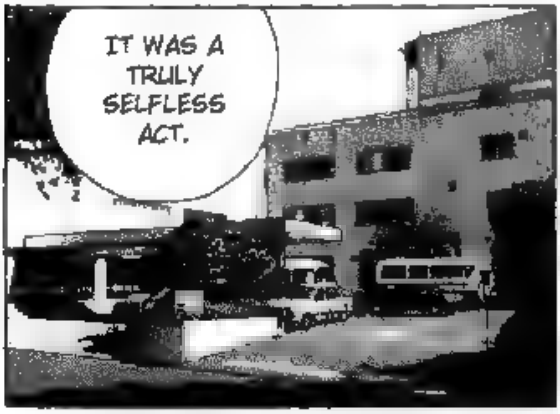
WELL...SHE GOT THE BLOOD SHE NEEDED JUST IN TIME.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD...

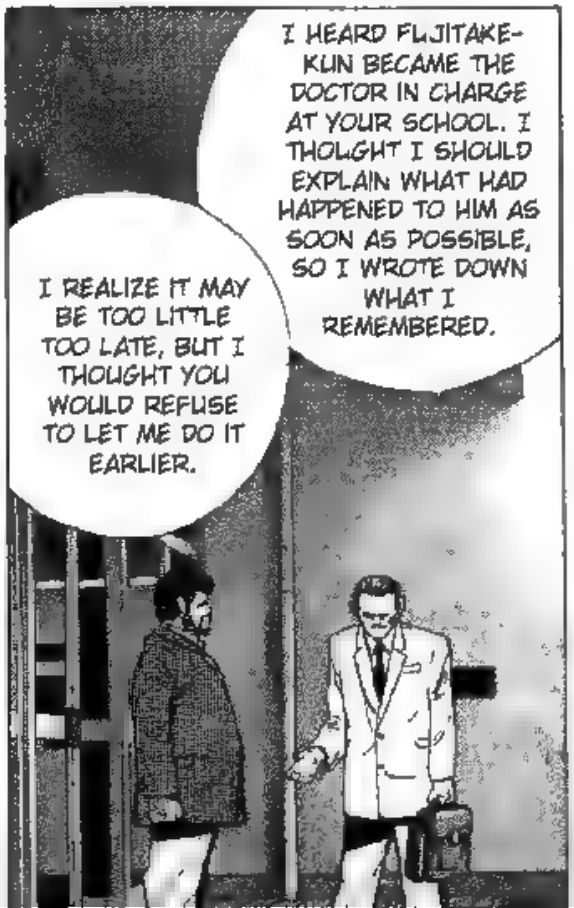
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT CAME FROM THE BLOOD BANK, BUT...

READ THE DOCTOR'S LETTER. IT SHOULD EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.

I SEE.

BUT I REMEMBER WHAT YOU DID THEN...


IT WAS A TRULY SELFLESS ACT.


I HEARD FUJITAKE-KUN BECAME THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE AT YOUR SCHOOL. I THOUGHT I SHOULD EXPLAIN WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SO I WROTE DOWN WHAT I REMEMBERED.
I REALIZE IT MAY BE TOO LITTLE TOO LATE, BUT I THOUGHT YOU WOULD REFUSE TO LET ME DO IT EARLIER.

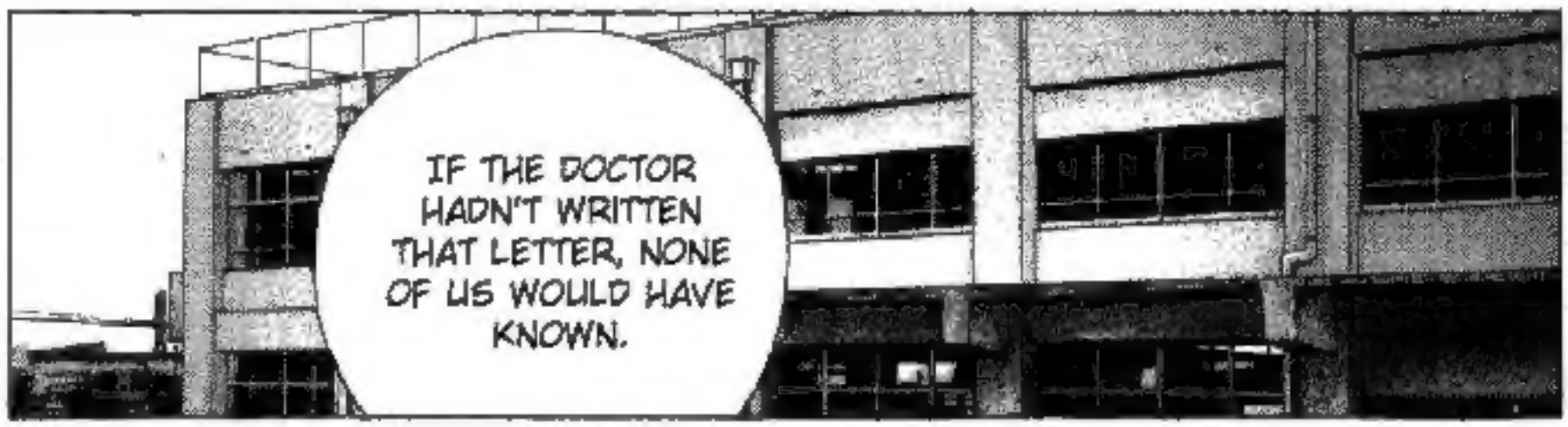
YOU COULD BE RISKING BOTH OF YOUR LIVES.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
IT DOESN'T MATTER! AS LONG AS I CAN SAVE AYA-CHAN!

TAKE MY BLOOD!
PLEASE!

I'VE GOT ANOTHER CHANCE IN FOUR YEARS.
YOU'LL LOSE ABOUT A QUARTER OF YOUR BLOOD. AFTER LOSING THAT MUCH, THERE'S VERY LITTLE CHANCE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO THE OLYMPICS.

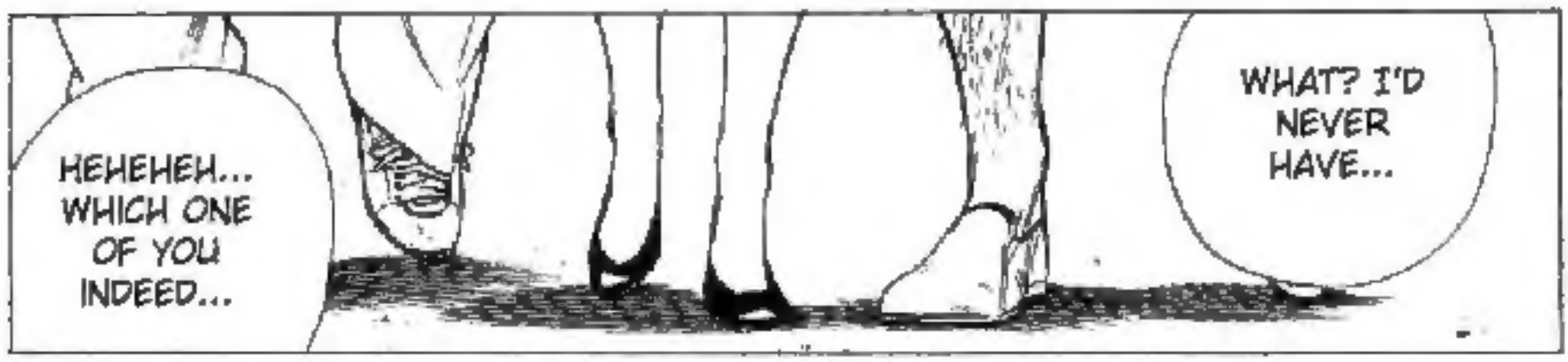
.....

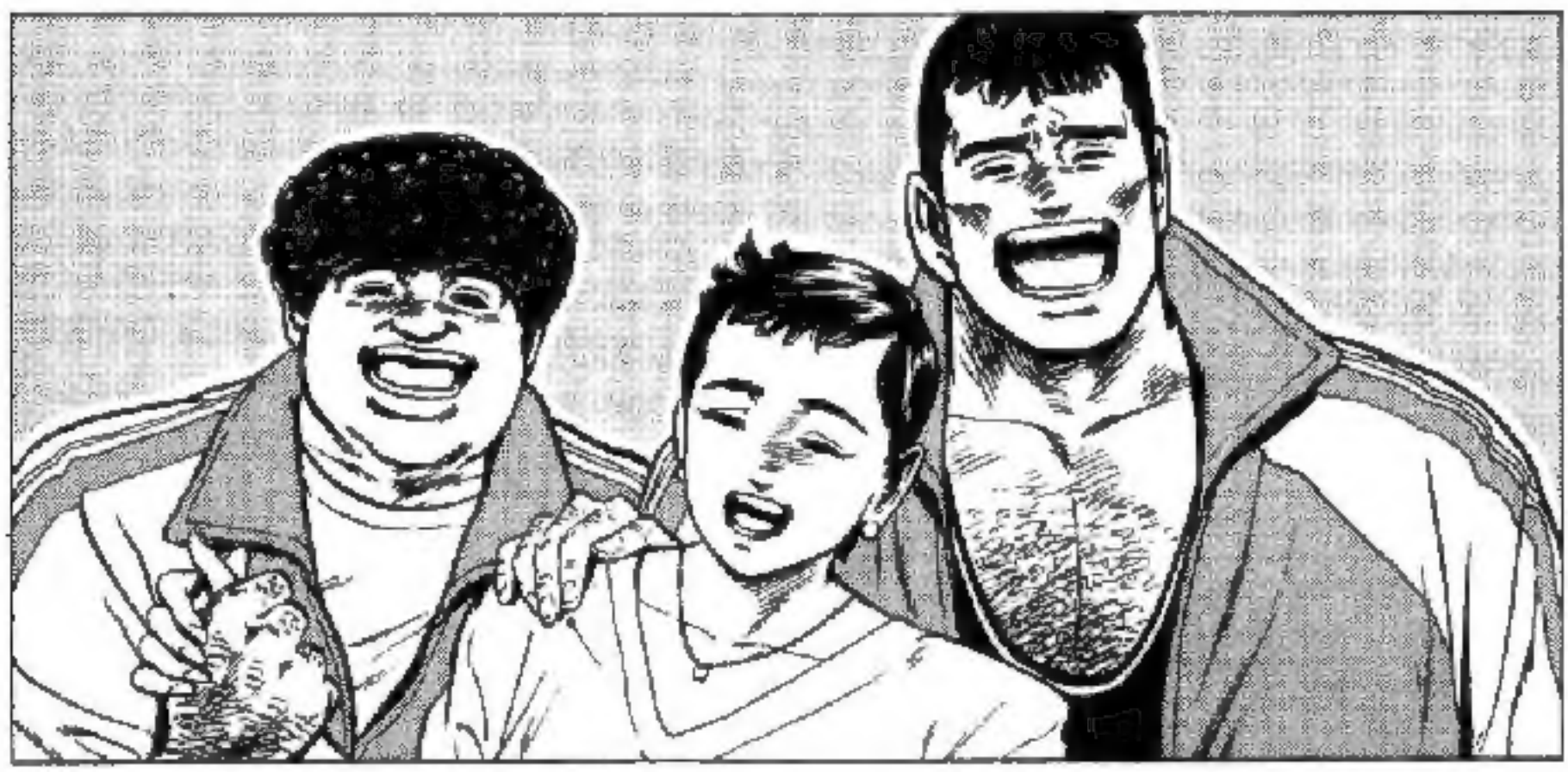
AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP!
BUT THIS IS HER ONLY CHANCE!



TS/N- CRYING TEARS FOREVER

IF YOU'D KNOWN THE TRUTH...
WHICH ONE OF US WOULD YOU HAVE MARRIED, AYA-CHAN?


HEHEHEH... WHICH ONE OF YOU INDEED...
WHAT? I'D NEVER HAVE...



GENERAL NOTE: FOR ANYONE WHO CARES, THE MONTREAL OLYMPICS (WHEN THE STORY IS SET) WERE IN 1976. THE MUNICH OLYMPICS WHICH FUJITAKE MENTIONED WERE IN 1972.

CRAZY DELINQUENTS AND SHIT SCANS

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